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Dated: January 20, 2009

Signature: 
(Scott E. Baxendale)

Docket No.: 27087/39522
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Letters Patent of:
Robert L. Brown et al.

Patent No.: 7,185,787

Issued: March 6, 2007

For: **TOY WATER GUN SYSTEM WITH
DETACHABLE WEAPONS**

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.322

Attention: Certificate of Correction Branch
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

Upon reviewing the above-identified patent, Patentee noted typographical errors which should be corrected.

In the Claims:

In U.S. Patent No. 7,185,787 issued March 6, 2007, columns 11 and 12, Claims 1-18, PTO error, "claims 1-18," should be the following claims as originally filed on February 10, 2004.

-- 1. A toy water gun system comprising:

a primary water gun having a housing, a pressurizable reservoir, an outlet nozzle in flow communication with the reservoir, and an actuating trigger, the primary toy water gun adapted to discharge an output stream of water through the outlet nozzle in response to actuation of the trigger;

the housing of the primary water gun further including a first receiving area and a second receiving area, each of the first and second receiving areas having an output port, the output port of the first receiving area in flow communication with the reservoir via a

first conduit, the output port of the second receiving area in flow communication with the reservoir via a second conduit;

 a first valve positioned to control flow through the first conduit;

 a second valve positioned to control flow through the second conduit;

 a first detachable water toy sized for mounting to the housing at the first receiving area, the first detachable water toy arranged to receive water from the reservoir via the output port of the first receiving area in response to operation of the first valve; and

 a second detachable water toy sized for mounting to the housing at the second receiving area, the second detachable water toy arranged to receive water from the reservoir via the output port of the second receiving area in response to operation of the second valve;

 wherein the first and second detachable water toys are selectively removable from the primary water gun for use.

2. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the first detachable water toy includes a pressurizable reservoir, an outlet nozzle in communication with the reservoir, and an actuating trigger, the first detachable water toy adapted to discharge an output stream of water through the outlet nozzle of the first detachable water toy in response to actuation of the trigger of the first detachable water toy.

3. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the first receiving area includes a spring-loaded plunger positioned to releasably retained the first detachable water toy in the first receiving area.

4. The toy water gun system of claim 3, wherein the first detachable water toy includes an inlet port positioned to receive water from the output port of the first receiving area, and wherein the spring-loaded plunger is adapted to maintain the inlet port of the first water toy in flow communication with the output port of the first receiving area when the first detectable water toy is disposed in the first receiving area.

5. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the second detachable water toy includes a sponge.

6. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the sponge is throwable.

7. The toy water gun system of claim 5, wherein the second receiving area includes a first panel disposed adjacent the output port of the first receiving area and a second panel spaced away from the first panel, the first and second panels cooperating to releasably retain the second detachable water toy in the second receiving area.

8. The toy water gun system of claim 7, wherein the first and second panels are shaped to correspond to the shape of the second detachable water toy.

9. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the first and second valves are spring-loaded.

10. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the trigger of the primary water gun is slidably mounted to the housing, and wherein the primary water gun includes a primary valve disposed adjacent the outlet nozzle, the primary valve operatively connected to trigger by a connecting rod.

11. A toy water gun system comprising:

a primary water gun having a housing, a reservoir, an outlet nozzle in flow communication with the reservoir, an actuating trigger, and an outlet valve disposed adjacent the outlet nozzle and responsive to actuation of the trigger, the primary toy water gun adapted to discharge an output stream of water through the outlet nozzle in response to actuation of the trigger;

the housing of the primary water gun further including a first receiving area and a second receiving area, each of the first and second receiving areas having an output port, the output port of the first receiving area in flow communication with the reservoir via a first conduit, the output port of the second receiving area in flow communication with the reservoir via a second conduit;

a first valve positioned to control flow through the first conduit;

a second valve positioned to control flow through the second conduit;

a first detachable water toy removably attached to the first receiving area, first detachable water toy including an expandable bladder, a nozzle in communication with the bladder, and an actuating trigger, the first detachable water toy adapted to discharge an output stream of water through the nozzle in response to actuation of the trigger, the bladder of the first detachable water toy arranged to receive water through the nozzle from the reservoir of the primary water gun via the output port of the first receiving area in response to operation of the first valve; and

a second detachable water toy removably attached to the second receiving area, the second detachable water toy arranged to receive water from the reservoir via the output port of the second receiving area in response to operation of the second valve;

wherein the first and second detachable water toys are selectively removable from the primary water gun for use.

12. The toy water gun system of claim 11, wherein the first receiving area includes a spring-loaded plunger positioned to bias the first detachable water toy into engagement with a portion of the housing.

13. The toy water gun system of claim 11, including a spring-loaded plunger disposed adjacent the first receiving area, the spring-loaded plunger positioned to maintain the nozzle of the first detachable water toy in flow communication with the outlet port of the first receiving area when the first detachable water toy is disposed in the first receiving area.

14. The toy water gun system of claim 11, wherein the second detachable water toy includes a deformable sponge, and wherein the second receiving area includes a pair of spaced apart panels sized and shaped to releasably retain the second detachable water toy in the second receiving area.

15. The toy water gun system of claim 14, wherein the first and second panels are shaped to correspond to the shape of the second detachable water toy.

16. The toy water gun system of claim 11, wherein the first and second valves are spring-loaded.

17. The toy water gun system of claim 11, wherein the primary valve includes a trip valve operatively connected to the trigger, the trip valve including a spring-loaded pivot plate arranged to close the primary valve.

18. The toy water gun of claim 11, wherein the primary water totally includes a spring-loaded plunger disposed adjacent the first receiving area and arranged to bias at least a portion of the first detachable water totally into engagement with a portion of the housing when the first detachable water toy is disposed in the first receiving area, and wherein the first detachable water toy includes a spring-loaded check valve, the spring-loaded check valve arranged to shift to an open position when the first detachable water toy is disposed in the first receiving area to thereby permit flow communication between the output port and the expandable bladder, the spring-loaded check valve further arranged to shift to a closed position when the first detachable water toy is removed from the first receiving area. --

The errors were not in the application as filed by applicant. Claims 1-18 as published in the patent were filed by an attorney of record for U.S. Serial No. 10/755,427 (“755,427 application”) on February 21, 2006 in an amendment that incorrectly identified the application to which the claims pertained as U.S. Serial No. 10/775,427 (“775,427 application”), the application number from which the present patent issued. Before the error was identified, the amendment was scanned by the Patent Office and added to the PAIR system files for the ‘775,427 application as a “Preliminary Amendment.” Subsequently, the error was identified, the serial number on the amendment was corrected by hand, and the amendment was scanned and added to the PAIR system files for the ‘755,427 application. A similar sequence of events occurred for an early amendment that was filed on April 23, 2004. However, the “Preliminary Amendments” were not deleted for the ‘775,427 application in the PAIR system. Thanks to the efforts of Examiner Cartegena, the bogus Preliminary Amendments have subsequently been deleted from the PAIR image file wrapper for the ‘775,427 application, but the Office of Patent Publication captured the claims of the incorrectly-filed February 21st Preliminary Amendment when the patent was printed. Accordingly, the errors were not caused by the applicants, and no fee is required for correcting the patent.

Transmitted herewith is a proposed Certificate of Correction effecting such amendment. However, in view of the volume and scope of the corrections to be made to the issued patent in replacing claims 1-18 as published in their entirety with the correct claims 1-18, Patentee respectfully requests reprinting of the patent in corrected form and including the corrections made by the previous Certificate of Correction issued on October 7, 2008. In the alternative, Patentee respectfully solicits the granting of the requested Certificate of Correction.

Dated: January 20, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTIONPage 1 of 1

PATENT NO. : 7,185,787
APPLICATION NO. : 10/775,427
ISSUE DATE : March 6, 2007
INVENTOR(S) : Robert L. Brown et al.

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

In the Claims:

At Columns 11 and 12, "claims 1-18," should be the following claims as originally filed on February 10, 2004.

-- 1. A toy water gun system comprising:

a primary water gun having a housing, a pressurizable reservoir, an outlet nozzle in flow communication with the reservoir, and an actuating trigger, the primary toy water gun adapted to discharge an output stream of water through the outlet nozzle in response to actuation of the trigger;

the housing of the primary water gun further including a first receiving area and a second receiving area, each of the first and second receiving areas having an output port, the output port of the first receiving area in flow communication with the reservoir via a first conduit, the output port of the second receiving area in flow communication with the reservoir via a second conduit;

a first valve positioned to control flow through the first conduit;

a second valve positioned to control flow through the second conduit;

a first detachable water toy sized for mounting to the housing at the first receiving area, the first detachable water toy arranged to receive water from the reservoir via the output port of the first receiving area in response to operation of the first valve; and

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a second detachable water toy sized for mounting to the housing at the second receiving area, the second detachable water toy arranged to receive water from the reservoir via the output port of the second receiving area in response to operation of the second valve;

wherein the first and second detachable water toys are selectively removable from the primary water gun for use.

2. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the first detachable water toy includes a pressurizable reservoir, an outlet nozzle in communication with the reservoir, and an actuating trigger, the first detachable water toy adapted to discharge an output stream of water through the outlet nozzle of the first detachable water toy in response to actuation of the trigger of the first detachable water toy.

3. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the first receiving area includes a spring-loaded plunger positioned to releasably retain the first detachable water toy in the first receiving area.

4. The toy water gun system of claim 3, wherein the first detachable water toy includes an inlet port positioned to receive water from the output port of the first receiving area, and wherein the spring-loaded plunger is adapted to maintain the inlet port of the first water toy in flow communication with the output port of the first receiving area when the first detectable water toy is disposed in the first receiving area.

5. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the second detachable water toy includes a sponge.

6. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the sponge is throwable.

7. The toy water gun system of claim 5, wherein the second receiving area includes a first panel disposed adjacent the output port of the first receiving area and a second panel spaced away from the first panel, the first and second panels cooperating to releasably retain the second detachable water toy in the second receiving area.

8. The toy water gun system of claim 7, wherein the first and second panels are shaped to correspond to the shape of the second detachable water toy.

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9. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the first and second valves are spring-loaded.

10. The toy water gun system of claim 1, wherein the trigger of the primary water gun is slidably mounted to the housing, and wherein the primary water gun includes a primary valve disposed adjacent the outlet nozzle, the primary valve operatively connected to trigger by a connecting rod.

11. A toy water gun system comprising:

a primary water gun having a housing, a reservoir, an outlet nozzle in flow communication with the reservoir, an actuating trigger, and an outlet valve disposed adjacent the outlet nozzle and responsive to actuation of the trigger, the primary toy water gun adapted to discharge an output stream of water through the outlet nozzle in response to actuation of the trigger;

the housing of the primary water gun further including a first receiving area and a second receiving area, each of the first and second receiving areas having an output port, the output port of the first receiving area in flow communication with the reservoir via a first conduit, the output port of the second receiving area in flow communication with the reservoir via a second conduit;

a first valve positioned to control flow through the first conduit;

a second valve positioned to control flow through the second conduit;

a first detachable water toy removably attached to the first receiving area, first detachable water toy including an expandable bladder, a nozzle in communication with the bladder, and an actuating trigger, the first detachable water toy adapted to discharge an output stream of water through the nozzle in response to actuation of the trigger, the bladder of the first detachable water toy arranged to receive water through the nozzle from the reservoir of the primary water gun via the output port of the first receiving area in response to operation of the first valve; and

a second detachable water toy removably attached to the second receiving area, the second detachable water toy arranged to receive water from the reservoir via the output port of the second receiving area in response to operation of the second valve;

wherein the first and second detachable water toys are selectively removable from the primary water gun for use.

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12. The toy water gun system of claim 11, wherein the first receiving area includes a spring-loaded plunger positioned to bias the first detachable water toy into engagement with a portion of the housing.

13. The toy water gun system of claim 11, including a spring-loaded plunger disposed adjacent the first receiving area, the spring-loaded plunger positioned to maintain the nozzle of the first detachable water toy in flow communication with the outlet port of the first receiving area when the first detachable water toy is disposed in the first receiving area.

14. The toy water gun system of claim 11, wherein the second detachable water toy is includes a deformable sponge, and wherein the second receiving area includes a pair of spaced apart panels sized and shaped to releasably retain the second detachable water toy in the second receiving area.

15. The toy water gun system of claim 14, wherein the first and second panels are shaped to correspond to the shape of the second detachable water toy.

16. The toy water gun system of claim 11, wherein the first and second valves are spring-loaded.

17. The toy water gun system of claim 11, wherein the primary valve includes a trip valve operatively connected to the trigger, the trip valve including a spring-loaded pivot plate arranged to close the primary valve.

18. The toy water gun of claim 11, wherein the primary water totally includes a spring-loaded plunger disposed adjacent the first receiving area and arrange two pious at least a portion of the first detachable water totally into engagement with a portion of the housing when the first detachable water toy is disposed in the first receiving area, and wherein the first detachable water toy includes a spring-loaded check valve, the spring-loaded check valve arranged to shift to an open position when the first detachable water toy is disposed in the first receiving area to thereby permit flow communication between the output port and the expandable bladder, the spring-loaded check out further arranged to shift to a closed position when the first detachable water toy is removed from the first receiving area. --

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